

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A method ~~Method~~ for checking a document of value (1) for soiling and spots, comprising steps of:

- illuminating, with an illumination system, the document of value (1) with an intensity (I_B) in at least a partial area; and
- capturing, with a detector system, at one or more measuring places, (2) the intensity (I_T) of the light transmitted through the partial area of the document of value (1) and the intensity (I_R) of the light reflected, or remitted, by the partial area of the document of value (1);

wherein

- for each measuring place the intensities of the transmitted and the reflected light are summed up to obtain a sum intensity value and
- the sum intensity value for each measuring place is each compared to a predetermined standard value.

2. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, wherein the intensity values (I_T , I_R) captured from the measuring places (2) are corrected before the summation for compensating locally differing measuring conditions.

3. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 2, wherein the correction compensates for local intensity fluctuations in illumination that occur during

measuring.

4. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 2, wherein the correction compensates for locally differing detector specifications.

5. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 4, wherein each captured intensity value (I_T , I_R) is reduced by a dark current measuring value (I_{TD} , I_{RD}) determined for the respective measuring place (2) before the summation.

6. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 5, wherein determining the dark current measuring values (I_{TD} , I_{RD}) intensity measurements is effected with switched-off illumination.

7. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, wherein each captured intensity value (I_T , I_R), is multiplied with a correction factor (a, b) determined for the measuring place (2) of the respective intensity value (I_T , I_R).

8. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 7, wherein the correction factors (a, b) are obtained on the basis of the intensity values, which are determined by means of intensity measurements in reference documents.

9. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, wherein the

document of value (1) in a transportation direction (R) is guided past an illumination system (3, 5) and a detector system (4, 6) positioned for this, and with the illumination system (3, 5) at least on one side (13, 14) of the document of value (1) an illumination profile is produced, which extends transverse to the transportation direction (R).

10. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 9, further comprising a plurality of detector elements positioned in a row at right angles to the transportation direction (R), configured to capture the intensity values (I_T , I_R) along a plurality of measuring tracks extending in parallel to the transportation direction (R).

11. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, wherein the document of value (1) is illuminated from one side (13) and that with a first detector device (8) positioned in the area of the same side (13) of the document of value (1) the intensity (I_R) of the reflected portion of light and with a second detector device (9) positioned in the area of the opposite side (14) of the document of value (1) the intensity (I_T) of the transmitted portion of light is captured.

12. (Currently Amended) The method ~~Method~~ according to claim 1, wherein the document of value (1) alternately is illuminated from a first and from an opposite second side (13, 14), and with a detector device (12) positioned in the area of the first side (13) of the document of value (1) correspondingly alternately are captured the intensity (I_T) of the light transmitted through from the second side (14) of the document of value (1) and the intensity (I_R) of the reflected portion of the light incident from the first side (13) on the document of value (1).

13. (Currently Amended) A checking ~~Checking~~ device for checking documents of value (1) for soiling and spots, comprising

- an illumination system (3, 5), configured to illuminate a document of value (1) at least in a partial area with an intensity (I_B);
- a detector system (4, 6), configured to capture from one or more measuring places (2) the light transmitted through the document of value (1) and the light reflected, or remitted, by the document of value;

wherein

- the illumination system (3, 5) and the detector system (4, 6) are designed to separately capture the intensity (I_T , I_R) of the transmitted light and of the reflected light, and
- an evaluation unit is provided, in which the intensities of the transmitted and reflected light are summed up for each measuring place, so that for each measuring place precisely one sum intensity value is obtained, each obtained sum intensity value is compared to a predetermined standard value.

14. (Currently Amended) The checking ~~Checking~~ device according to claim 13, wherein the evaluation unit comprises a correction unit for correcting the captured intensity values (I_T , I_R) of the transmitted light and of the reflected light for the measuring places (2) for the purpose of compensating locally differing measuring conditions, as well as an addition unit for adding the corrected intensity values for the measuring places (2).

15. (Currently Amended) The checking ~~Checking~~ device according to claim 14,

wherein the correction unit compensates for local intensity fluctuations in the illumination produced by the illumination system (3, 4) during measuring.

16. (Currently Amended) The checking ~~Checking~~ device according to claim 14, wherein the correction unit compensates for locally differing specifications of the detector system (4, 6).

17. (Currently Amended) The checking ~~Checking~~ device according to claim 13, further comprising a storage device with dark current measuring values (ITD, IRD) stored for different measuring places (2), which correspond to transmission or reflection intensity values captured with switched-off illumination, or with correction factors (a, b), stored for different measuring places (2), for the transmission or reflection intensity values determined by a measurement.

18. (Currently Amended) The checking ~~Checking~~ device according to claim 13, further comprising a transportation device that guides the document of value (1) for the purpose of a measurement in a transportation direction (R) past the illumination system (3, 5) and the detector system (4, 6) positioned for this.

19. (Currently Amended) The checking ~~Checking~~ device according to claim 18, wherein the illumination system (3, 5) produces an illumination profile extending transverse to the transportation direction (R).

20. (Currently Amended) The checking ~~Checking~~ device according to claim 19, wherein the detector system (4, 6) has a detector device (8, 9, 12), which comprises a plurality of detector elements positioned in a row at right angles to the transportation direction (R).

21. (Currently Amended) The checking ~~Checking~~ device according to claim 13, wherein the illumination system (3) has an illumination device (7), which illuminates the document of value (1) from a first side (13), and that the detector system (4) has a first detector device (8), which

- is allocated to the illumination device (7),
- is positioned at the same side (13) of the document of value (1) and
- captures the intensity (IR) of the reflected portion of light,
- and a second detector device (9), which
- is allocated to the illumination device (7),
- is positioned at the opposite side (14) of the document of value (1) and
- captures the intensity (IT) of the transmitted portion of light.

22. (Currently Amended) The checking ~~Checking~~ device according to claim 13, wherein the illumination system (5) has

- a first illumination device (10), which is configured to illuminate the document of value (1) at least in a partial area from a first side (13),
- a second illumination device (11), which is configured to illuminate the document of value (1) in the partial area from a second side (14), and

- a control device, which is configured to activate the illumination device (10, 11) in such a way that alternately the first or the second illumination device (10, 11) illuminates the document of value (1),
- wherein the detector system (6) has a detector device (12) disposed on the first side (13) and allocated to the two illumination devices (10, 11), configured to alternately capture the intensity (I_T) of the light transmitted through from the second side (14) of the document of value (1) and the intensity (I_R) of the reflected portion of the light incident from the first side (13) on the document of value (1).

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 7 wherein each said captured intensity value is reduced by a dark current measuring value.